

was the initial United States national phase filing based on PCT/GB 91/00628 which was filed on April 22, 1991 and claimed priority of British Application 9009073.9 filed on April 23, 1990. A separate paper asserting this claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. §§119 and 363 is being filed herewith.

The Endo '063 patent which issued on July 12, 1994 was based on an application filed in the United States on May 29, 1992. In view of the May 29, 1992 filing date of the Endo patent which is subsequent to the April 23, 1990 priority date of British application No. 9009073.9, Endo is not effective prior art against the subject application. Accordingly, the rejection based thereon must be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Endo in view of an acknowledged lack of teaching of a reinforcement at the junction. This rejection is also respectfully traversed for the same reasons with respect to claim 9, namely that Endo is not an effective reference under Section 102 it cannot be a reference under Section 103. Accordingly, this rejection must also be withdrawn.

Finally, the Examiner set forth a non-statutory double patenting rejection over U.S. Patent No. 5,692,543 owned by Insituform (Netherlands) B.V. In view of the common ownership of this application and the '543 Patent, applicant respectfully submits a Terminal Disclaimer signed by the Secretary of Insituform (Netherlands) B.V. disclaiming the term of any patent based on this application which would extend beyond the term of U.S. Patent No. 5,692,543.

In view of the filing of Terminal Disclaimer, applicant respectfully submits that the double patenting rejection should also be withdrawn. The appropriate fee for filing the Terminal Disclaimer, estimated to be \$110.00, is being submitted by way of an enclosed

check. Please credit any over payment or charge any deficiency to the undersigned attorney Account No. 03-3415.

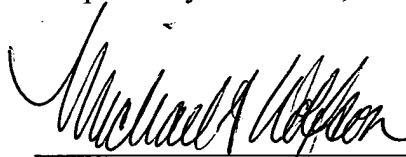
A duplicate copy of this paper is submitted herewith.

Applicant has submitted a new claim 11 directed to the form of reinforcement in the liner at the junction. Express support for this new claim can be found in the specification at page 4, first full paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that this new claim dependent on a allowable claim and fully supported is also allowable for the same reasons.

In view of the withdrawal of the Endo reference and filing of the Terminal Disclaimer, applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application at an early date with a view towards issuing a favorable action thereon. If upon review of the application, the Examiner is unable to issue an immediate Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's attorney with a view towards resolving the outstanding issues.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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